

From: [Lilley, Troy - HFD](#)
To: [Morris, Vickie -HFD](#); [Vargas, Cynthia - HFD](#)
Cc: [Duran, Leticia - HFD](#); [Moore, Gary](#)
Subject: RE: Permits: Chemical Facilities
Date: Monday, March 09, 2015 2:31:54 PM

Inspection and/or Chief Vargas's office can help Gary with the questions. It is out of my area of knowledge.

Troy D. Lilley
HFD District Chief
Hazmat Coordinator
713-859-3236

From: Morris, Vickie -HFD
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 11:48 AM
To: Lilley, Troy - HFD
Cc: Duran, Leticia - HFD
Subject: FW: Permits: Chemical Facilities

Importance: High

Chief Lilley is this something you answer for this person or can you forward to who needs to know about this, thanks.

Vickie Morris

Customer Service Section Chief
HFD Fire Prevention / Permit Office
(832)394-9456 (Office)
(832)394-9465 (Office Fax)
vickie.morris@houstontx.gov

From: Duran, Leticia - HFD
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 11:23 AM
To: Morris, Vickie -HFD
Subject: FW: Permits: Chemical Facilities
Importance: High

Vickie,

Can you let me know if this about?

If you need anything for me to do let me know.

Thank you.

Leticia

From: Moore, Gary [<mailto:Moore.Gary@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 9:57 AM
To: HFD Public Info
Cc: Terry Andrews
Subject: Permits: Chemical Facilities

Hello:

I am an employee of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). I am conducting an environmental cleanup at 4904 Griggs Rd in Houston, TX (Former CES Environmental Services, Inc. facility). This facility processed and stored hazardous substances during its operational period which was from the years of 2000 to 2009 at which point it filed bankruptcy. A Bankruptcy Trustee was

assigned to liquidate the assets of the Bankrupt Estate but was unable to fully rid the facility of the hazardous substances located on-site as items could only be addressed as funding was available. For all intents and purposes, this facility was abandoned and experienced significant vandalism and theft which resulted in spills. In addition, the lack of funding resulted in deterioration of the chemical containers and leaks. In August 2014, the EPA became involved with the site as a result of a chemical spill that ran off-site into a residential neighborhood to the South (Kingsbury Street). The City of Houston, TCEQ, and the EPA all responded to the spill. The City of Houston handled the initial response and TCEQ completed the response with assistance from the EPA. Upon completion of the response, the EPA initiated a removal assessment to determine if EPA cleanup action was warranted. In late August, EPA approved a Federal Removal Action on the site and initiated those actions in September. As of February 16, 2015, EPA continues its actions to remove and dispose of the hazardous substances located on-site. We anticipate completing our actions in the Spring of this year.

We have been meeting periodically with local residents both individually and as a group so they can voice their concerns of which many of them are the continuing but lessening odors from the facility as we continue our cleanup actions. One of the major concerns of the community is the uncertainty of the future use of the property. As the property is surrounded by vacant property, commercial business, and an elementary school which borders the property to the West, Griggs Road and residential properties bordering the property to the North, residential properties bordering the property to the East, and residential properties bordering the property to the South. This was absolutely not an appropriate facility to be operating at this location but the lack of neighborly concern by the company and no zoning regulations seems to have caused this potential for chemical exposures. I have been in contact with the City Planning and Development Office and they have confirmed that the City of Houston has no zoning and they do not have restrictions that would prevent a reoccurrence of this type of situation in the future. They have indicated that I should talk with the HFD Permits to see if there are permit restrictions or any other restrictions that would apply to this property to prevent a repeat of such an issue at this location. I would appreciate it if you could let me know of what restrictions may be in play to limit the ability of someone to operate a similar type of business smack dab in the middle of a residential neighborhood with the potential to expose the surrounding residential population. I realize that you do not approve the rules and that this is typically done by the elected officials.

Anything you can do to help me inform the area residents of what protections they may or may not have will help them decide on actions they may take to protect themselves from a similar operation that may occupy this property and potentially cause similar issues.

Thank you for your time,

Gary Moore

Federal On-Scene Coordinator

U.S. EPA Region 6

214-789-1627 cell

214-665-6609 office

moore.gary@epa.gov